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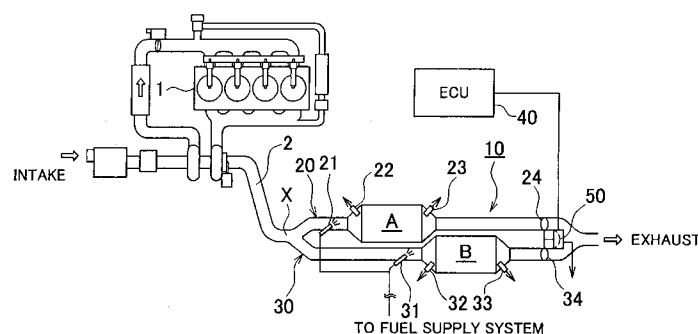
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(54) Internal combustion engine emission control apparatus and method

(57) Provided is an internal combustion engine emission control technology that includes: split passages (20, 30) that divide exhaust gas discharged from an internal combustion engine (1) into a plurality of streams; particulate filters (A, B) that are provided individually in the split passages (20, 30), and that remove a component present in the exhaust gas at a high removal rate if a temperature of the exhaust gas that inflows via the split passages (20, 30) satisfies a predetermined temperature condition; and exhaust choke

valves (24, 34) that change proportions of amounts of flow of the exhaust gas into the split passages (20, 30) so that the predetermined temperature condition is satisfied in at least one split passage (20, 30) of the split passages. Therefore, it becomes possible to perform emission control over a broadened range of changing temperatures of the exhaust gas. Furthermore, even in a situation where the emission removal rate normally drops, emission control can be performed while avoiding reduction in the emission removal rate as much as possible.

FIG. 1





European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			F01N
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		30 May 2005	Nobre, S
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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